

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LONDON 04489 211248Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----070697 211250Z /53

O 231019Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4360
INFO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY GABORONE IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LILONGWE IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LAGOS IMMEDIATE
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE
AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 04489

EXDIS

CAPE TO//N FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: PDEV, RH, UK
SUBJECT: RHODESIA: LAGOS SUMMIT

1. SONNY RAMPHAL'S SPECIAL ADVISER, MONI MALHOUTRA, TOLD EMBASSY OFFICER MARCH 20 THAT THE SECRETARY GENERAL HAD LEARNED FROM GARBA THAT THE NIGERIANS HAVE COOLED ON THE IDEA OF A FRONTLINE SUMMIT WITH PRESIDENT CARTER IN LAGOS. THE PLAN NOW, MALHOUTRA SAID, IS FOR THE FRONTLINE FOREIGN MINISTERS TO CONVENE IN LAGOS PRIOR TO THE PRESIDENT'S ARRIVAL AND EITHER MEET WITH THE PRESIDENT SUBSEQUENTLY OR HAVE OBASANJO ALONE CONVEY THEIR THOUGHTS. MALHOUTRA COULD GIVE NO EXPLANATION WHY THE SUMMIT PROPOSAL HAD FALTERED. HE SPECU-
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LATED THE NIGERIANS MIGHT HAVE BACKED OFF THE IDEA BECAUSE IT THREATENED TO STEAL THE BILATERAL SHOW DURING THE PRESIDENT'S VISIT. OR, POSSIBLY, THE BRITISH PRESENCE MADE THE PROPOSAL LESS ATTRACTIVE TO THE FRONTLINE PRESIDENTS WHILE A SUMMIT WOULD LIKELY IMPOSE OBLIGATIONS ON THE FRONTLINE THEY MIGHT NOT WANT.

2. RAMPHAL IS NEVERTHELESS WRITING OBASANJO, NYERERE
AND KAUNDA URGING THEY KEEP UP PRESSURE ON THE PATRIOTIC
FRONT TO NEGOTIATE AND ENCOURAGING THE IDEA OF A
SUMMIT IF IT CAN BE RESUSCITATED.

3. THE BRITISH STILL HAVE HAD NO WORD FROM THE
NIRER.IANS ABOUT A SUMMIT.

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NNN

Message Attributes

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